

Memorandum

To: Chairman and Commissioners

Date: December 3, 2001

From: Diane C. Eidam

BOOK ITEM 4.8
ACTION

Ref: TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON AERONAUTICS RECOMMENDATIONS ON AVIATION ISSUES

During 2001, the Commission's Technical Advisory Committee on Aeronautics (TACA) focused primarily on developing a "White Paper On The State's Role In Aviation." This report identifies the need for a comprehensive review of the role and responsibilities of Caltrans' Division of Aeronautics and the funding sources for the various state programs related to aviation. At the July 12, 2001 Commission meeting, the TACA was given the Commission's approval to undertake a joint effort with Caltrans.

TACA met on November 29, 2001 to discuss the specific recommendations that will be presented at the December 12-13, 2001 Commission meeting. The recommendations focus on the following issues:

- First do what must be done to keep the aviation system operating under today's heightened security requirements, including immediately providing State funding to supplement federal emergency funding for security equipment, fencing and secure gates at California's commercial, reliever, and feeder airports throughout the state.
- Beyond improved airport security, protecting the long-term operational integrity of California's aviation system requires controlling land uses around existing airports. Increased state funding to help county Airport Land Use Commissions complete Comprehensive Land Use Plans for all airports in their county is a necessary step to develop and maintain a viable aviation system in California.
- A significant increase in state funding is needed to provide the safety and capacity improvements identified in the California Aviation System Plan Capital Improvement Program including runway extension to allow air cargo and business aviation jets to access airports throughout the state.
- Authorize and fund involvement of the Caltrans Division of Aeronautics in providing information to pilots and business aviation departments to promoting the use of a larger number of California's airports to better use existing system capacity, and
- Authorize and fund increased involvement of the Caltrans Division of Aeronautics in assisting smaller airports in securing state and federal aviation grants.